have been allowable as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants assert that no Claims have been narrowed within the meaning of <u>Festo</u>.

A U.S. format Abstract is provided.

Entry of the new Claims and Abstract and early and favorable action on the merits of this application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

THE FIRM OF HUESCHEN AND SAGE

G. PATRICK SAGE

Dated: May 3, 2001 Customer No.: 25,666 500 Columbia Plaza 350 East Michigan Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49007 (616) 382-0030

Enclosure: Postal Card Receipt

Claims 25 through 48 Abstract of the Disclosure